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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/001,813	12/05/2001	Takanobu Matsubara	914-147	2833
23117	7590	05/06/2005	EXAMINER	
NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC 1100 N GLEBE ROAD 8TH FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22201-4714			DINH, NGOC V	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2187	

DATE MAILED: 05/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Supplemental  
Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/001,813

Examiner

NGOC V DINH

Applicant(s)

MATSUBARA ET AL.

Art Unit

2189

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 04/11/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-9, 12-19, 21-28, 31-38 and 41-48.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some\*   c) ☐ None   of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 12/28/2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to Amendment filed 09/16/04.

Claims 2-5, 7-, 12-15, 17, 21-24, 26, 31-34, 36, 41-44, 46 have been amended.

Claims 1, 10-11, 20, 29-30, 39-40 have been cancelled.

### Reasons for allowance

2. The primary reasons for allowance of claims 2, 12, 21, 31, 41 in the instant application is the combination with the inclusion of at least the limitation of "a determination circuit connected to said detection circuit and read circuit of said data reader to determine whether output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time limit and said recorded date read out by said read circuit and a current date detected by said detection circuit, overwrite circuit connected to the detection circuit ... by said detection circuit".

Because claims 3, 13, 22, 32, 42 depend directly on claims 2, 12, 21, 31, 41. These claims are considered allowable for at least the same reasons noted above.

The primary reasons for allowance of claims 4, 14, 23, 33, 43 in the instant application is the combination with the inclusion of at least the limitation of "a determination circuit connected to said detection circuit and read circuit of said data reader to determine whether output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time limit and said recorded date read out by said read circuit and a current date detected by said detection circuit, a circuit detecting an elapsed time from said date of commencing output and said elapsed time". The primary reasons for allowance of claims 5, 15, 24, 34, 44 in the instant application is the combination with the inclusion of at least the limitation of "a determination circuit connected to said detection circuit and read circuit of said data reader to determine whether output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time limit and said recorded date read out by said read circuit and a current date detected by said detection circuit, an incorrect date detection circuit detecting ... before said recorded date".

Art Unit: 2189

Because claims 6, 16, 25, 35, 45 depend directly on claims 5, 15, 24, 34, 44. These claims are considered allowable for at least the same reasons noted above.

The primary reasons for allowance of claims 7, 17, 26, 36, 46 in the instant application is the combination with the inclusion of at least the limitation of "a determination circuit connected to said detection circuit and read circuit of said data reader to determine whether output of said data recorded in said recording medium is allowed or not based on said time limit and said recorded date read out by said read circuit and a current date detected by said detection circuit, a monitor date storage circuit ... as a monitor date".

Because claims 8-9, 18-19, 27-28, 37-38, 47-48 depend directly or indirectly on claims 7, 17, 26, 36, 46. These claims are considered allowable for at least the same reasons noted above.

### ***Conclusion***

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a. Yokota et al PN 5856958 discloses reproducing method and apparatus.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Ngoc Dinh whose telephone number is (571) 272-4191. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30 AM-5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Donald A. Sparks, can be reached on (571) 272-4201. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for regular communications and (703) 746-7238 for After Final communications.

Art Unit: 2189

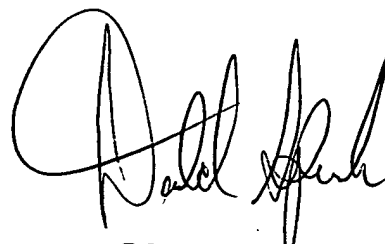
Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2100.

NGOC DINH

Patent Examiner

ART UNIT 2187

May 2, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald Sparks", written over a horizontal line.

**DONALD SPARKS**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**